

MINUTES CITY COUNCIL MEETING July 19, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Present: Mayor: Charlie Miner; Council: Deirdre Kvale, Mike Feldmann, Jahn Dyvik, and

Gina Joyce

Staff Present: City Administrator: Scott Weske; City Engineer: Brad Reifsteck; Fire Chief:

James Van Eyll; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR'S COMMENTS – LONG LAKE NEWS, MEETING REVIEW AND UPDATES

Mayor Miner offered the following comments and updates:

The City Council had met in a work session prior to the regular meeting at which they discussed proposed rates for a move to monthly utility billing, and updates regarding Fire Department discussions with the City of Orono.

Mayor Miner mentioned a number of special events coming up in the City this summer including Buckhorn Days on Saturday, July 23, 2022 in Nelson Lakeside Park, the Long Lake Fire Department Red Hot 5K on Saturday, July 30, 2022; and Night to Unite on Tuesday, August 2, 2022.

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Dyvik, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approve Minutes of July 5, 2022 City Council Meeting
- B. Receive Unofficial Draft Minutes of July 5, 2022 Economic Development Authority Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll

A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Joyce, to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Ayes: all.

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

No one was in attendance to address the City Council during Open Correspondence.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Update from Hennepin County Commissioner Chris LaTondresse, District 6

Hennepin County Commissioner LaTondresse gave an overview of the makeup of District 6 and highlighted some of the activities the County government has concentrated on over the last year, including vaccination efforts to combat the pandemic. He discussed the County's receipt of American Rescue Plan Act funds and reported on how they were invested throughout the County.

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He commented that the region is facing an intersecting crisis of affordable housing and homelessness that has been made worse by the pandemic. He reviewed the large gap between number of low income households and the number of affordable housing units available for those households and shared some of the initiatives and projects employed by the County to address this issue. He reported that another top priority in the County is related to public safety and mental health, and highlighted the recently implemented embedded social worker program that now has placed 22 social workers at public safety agencies across the County. He shared that the County has also looked for ways to support small businesses and presented information about the County's Elevate Business HC program. He also touched on upcoming transportation projects impacting the Lake Minnetonka area, which will include Phase 3 of the County Road 112 reconstruction project anticipated to begin in 2023.

Council member Kvale inquired which Long Lake businesses had benefitted from County grant assistance and COVID relief funds.

County Commissioner LaTondresse indicated that information on grant disbursements is available by Googling Hennepin County small business grants. Search results should offer an interactive map that can be utilized to review recipient businesses.

Mayor Miner thanked County Commissioner LaTondresse for the property assessment levy and tax discussion that was held a few weeks ago. He noted that he had been able to attend, found it fascinating and had ending up learning a lot of new information.

City Clerk Moeller expressed her appreciation to the County for looking at creative ways to address homelessness.

Award Contract for the 2022 Pavement Improvement Project

City Engineer Reifsteck reviewed the scope of the proposed 2022 Pavement Improvement Project to include improvements to Westwood Drive, Kennedy Lane, Valley View Road, Creekside Drive, Bollum Lane, Bollum Circle, Meadow Lane, and Orchard Circle. He reported that four bids were received and opened on July 6, 2022, with the lowest responsible bidder being GMH Asphalt Corporation out of Chaska. He explained that though the overall project contract came in at an amount higher than the City Engineer's estimate, the City has the available funds to complete the project as it was bid. He provided a review of the breakdown of funding sources for project elements, and also noted that the 2022 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project would be coming in under budget. Staff is recommending approval of the project and awarding of the bid to GHM Asphalt Corporation.

Council member Kvale questioned when the contractor would be starting the work.

Reifsteck stated that he believes once the contracts are signed, he would assume that they would begin work by mid to late August.

Council member Joyce inquired whether the City had asked the contractors to adhere to a certain timeline and if any of the bidders had expressed concern about the timeline.

Reifsteck confirmed that per the project specifications, the contract is required to be completed by October 31, 2022. He observed that it may be difficult for some of the contractors to complete the project in time, so they may have included more risk on their bids; however, he believed that the City received higher bids than the estimate solely because of inflation and supply chain issues.

Council member Dyvik asked if City Engineer Reifsteck had worked with GMH in the past.

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Reifsteck confirmed that he had worked with them previously. He has been working with them currently on a project in Excelsior and they have been doing a great job there.

A motion was made by Kvale, seconded by Dyvik, to adopt Resolution No. 2022-38 awarding the construction contract for the 2022 Pavement Improvement Project to GMH Asphalt Corporation and to authorize the Mayor and City Administrator to enter a contract for said services. Ayes: all.

Updates and Discussion Regarding Fire Department Matters

Mayor Miner recalled that he and Council member Dyvik were nominated by the Council to serve as representatives of the City to discuss Fire Department matters with Orono. He stated that originally, Orono's Council had nominated their Mayor, Denny Walsh, to serve as their representative in these discussions but had since changed their representatives to their Council members Victoria Seals and Matt Johnson. He reported that there have been two meetings thus far between the representatives of both cities to discuss the situation in an attempt to find some middle ground regarding the future of the Fire Department. He shared that he feels it has been helpful to meet in person with representatives from Orono rather than just writing letters back and forth, and noted that he anticipates discussions will continue on a fairly regular basis.

Council member Dyvik added that the new discussions came about after Orono rejected the City's offer to buy out their half of Fire Station 1. He mentioned that he is hopeful that the two sides will be able to negotiate and come to some sort of solution, and indicated that he believes the plan is to attempt to meet on a weekly basis.

Council member Joyce asked if it would come to the point where both cities would have public hearings about this issue.

Mayor Miner confirmed that Long Lake will definitely offer opportunity for more input from residents on the topic, but the timing to do so is not quite there yet as the cities are still working to piece an agreement together. He reminded residents that there is a fair amount of information about the matter available on the City's website.

OTHER BUSINESS

Grading Projects in City Parks - Mayor Miner reported that the Zvago project is moving forward and noted that there is some fill being taken from the site that has been used for grading projects at Holbrook Park at Dexter Park. Weske stated that he believes the majority of the fill work has been completed, but indicated that there may be a bit added at Hardin Park as well. The impacted park areas will be hydroseeded once grading is complete.

Tree Replacements - Council member Dyvik commented that his understanding is that the trees on the corner of Wayzata Boulevard W and Brown Road N will be moved to replace the dead trees along the berm between Martha Lane and San Pancho restaurant. Weske confirmed Dyvik's understanding was correct and added that he believes some of the flowers will be moved or potted and taken to Public Works, but was unsure about the timing of when the work would take place.

Carp Harvest Updates - Council member Joyce had reached out to the Long Lake Waters Association and confirmed that there have been two carp pulls from the five box nets thus far. She had requested some information on the carp removal numbers and will forward that information once she receives it.

Fire Chief Comments - Fire Chief Van Eyll reminded everyone about the Fire Department's 5K event coming up on July 30, 2022. He stated that he also wanted to express appreciation from the

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Fire Department to Mayor Miner and Council member Dyvik for putting in some extra time to meet with Orono representatives.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 7:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Weske City Administrator